GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:990
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2005
PENDING PROPOSALS UNDER PMGSY
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals under Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are pending for environmental and forestry clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(c) whether the Ministry of Rural Development has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Environment and Forests;

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(e) the other steps taken towards early clearance of pending proposals?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) State-wise number of cases pending for forest clearance are as under: -

S. No. State Number of cases pending

1 Chhattisgarh 53
2 Goa 4
3 Gujarat 56
4 Himachal Pradesh 448
5 Karnataka 4
6 Madhya Pradesh 67
7 Maharashtra 4
8 Orissa 6
9 Sikkim 16
10 Tamil Nadu 2
11 Uttaranchal 30
12 West Bengal 2

Total: 692

(c) to (e) Rural Roads is a State subject. It is the responsibility of the State Government/District Panchayat to ensure that lands are available for taking up the proposed road works, including obtaining forest clearance, wherever required, from the concerned Forest Authority. Ministry of Environment and Forests, at the time of formulation of PMGSY as a `Centrally Sponsored Scheme`, had stated that in case of involvement of forest land for construction of roads, clearance is needed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, which is statutory. The Ministry had further stated that they have delegated powers to their six Regional Offices and in case all information is complete, clearance can be obtained within a period of six weeks. All State Governments have, accordingly, been advised by this Ministry on 23rd June, 2003, to process such cases well in time and send reports so that the matter can be taken up with the Ministry of Environment and Forests in case of very substantial delay.